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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: BERNHARD RIEPLER (PCT)  
PCT No.: PCT/AT 99/00260 FILED: NOVEMBER 3, 1999  
TITLE: FLEXIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN SPORTS DEVICE AND SHOE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT  
Ass't. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Cancel Pages 1 through 6 and replace with new Pages 1 through 6e, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1 through 29 and replace them with new claims 30 through 57 as follows:

--30. Pivotal binding system (1) for mounting between a sports device (2) and a tread surface (5) for a user's foot, in which the treat surface (5) is pivotable about an axis extending almost parallel with the ankle joint of the foot and is displaceable, in at least one part region co-operating with the

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